

UK-Russia row



- ▶ **Nov 2006:** Ex-KGB agent **Alexander Litvinenko** dies from radioactive poisoning in London
- ▶ **May 2007:** Russia rejects British extradition request for **Andrei Lugovoi**, whom UK investigators suspect of murdering Litvinenko
- ▶ **Jul:** London expels four Russian diplomats – Moscow retaliates by expelling four British diplomats
- ▶ **Dec:** Kremlin orders **British Council** to close two offices, accusing it of tax violations – which Britain denies
- ▶ **Jan 14, 2008:** Kremlin promises punitive measures after British Council re-opens both offices
- ▶ **Jan 17:** British Council forced to suspend operations in **St Petersburg** and **Yekaterinburg** after Council's Russian staff are questioned at length by **FSB** officers – described by British foreign secretary **David Miliband** as “blatant intimidation”